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### **Mission Statement**

"Working in conjunction with town leadership, the Energy Task Force will proactively seek to identify strategies and potential funding partnerships in order to lower municipal and school energy expenditures and community greenhouse emissions."

### **Achievements**

- Awarded \$ 150, 000 grant for Lane School energy conservation updates.
- Audits and analysis of municipal/school building energy use to improve energy efficiency.
- Negotiating with NSTAR for energy efficient lighting retrofits.
- Purchase of infrared camera to assess building and system efficiencies.
- [Kill-a-Watt meters](#) available for circulation at the town library. (thanks to Friends of the Library funding.)
- Research into "best practices" in other communities.

### **Work in Progress**

- The Energy Task Force is pursuing Green Communities designation through Town Meeting to vote authorization of the Massachusetts Stretch Energy Code (780 CMR 120.AA).
- Town Energy Policy is being developed in collaboration with town administration, committees, and approval by Selectmen.

### **Green Communities Act**

The Bedford Energy Task Force aims to qualify Bedford as a Green Community.

[Green Communities Act](#) - At least thirty five municipalities have already been designated green communities, including our neighbors in Arlington, Chelmsford, Lexington, and Lincoln.  
[Governors' announcement](#)



Green Community designation who submit proposals for municipal energy upgrade projects. State subsidy of the town's energy efficiency investments saves your local tax dollars. In order to be eligible to receive funding, 5 criteria must be met.

How do we qualify as a green community? How eill we achieve these goals?

Requirements

Bedford Progress

Allow businesses to be sited within their borders that conduct alternative energy research and development	OR	alternative
energy technology manufacture	OR	
alternative energy production. (Only one of the three is necessary.)		

- Bedford already allows for 'as-of-right-siting' for alternative energy research and development.
- Expedite permitting for such businesses so that permits are awarded within 1 year of application.
- Current permitting practices are under review, however permits have historically been granted in a timely fashion.

Produce and submit a plan to reduce municipal energy use by 20% within a 5 year timeframe.

Bedford has already made significant

progress toward this goal, although we still have more to do.

The Town Facilities Manager, Richard Jones, has established an energy use baseline beginning in 2007 and has been working to reduce energy costs for the last several years.

[Energy Usage and Reduction Progress](#).

[Town of Bedford](#)

Develop and submit a plan that commits to the purchase of energy efficient vehicles for the town fleet. (Purchases to be made only as vehicles require replacement. **Exemptions**: emergency and heavy-duty vehicles.)

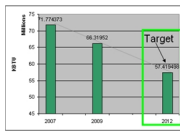
The Energy Task Force intends to collaborative with town departments to develop a policy related to new vehicle purchases.

Require all new residential construction over 3,000 square feet and all new commercial and industrial real estate construction to reduce lifecycle energy costs.

the Massachusetts (780 CMR 120-AA)

Bedford can fulfill this criteria by adopting [Stretch Energy Code](#)

## Bedford Energy Reduction Progress



Categories	2007	2009
DPW Vehicles*	8,713,626	11,596,164
DPW Operations	6,720,442	6,955,951
Town Buildings	17,106,683	15,966,297
School Buildings	39,203,622	31,774,931

\*Many variables affect energy usage during any individual year. Changing bus schedules, weather conditions, etc. affect energy requirements. Though energy is reported here, it does not mean that energy consumption is consistently being reduced.

Bedford has already decreased its municipal energy usage since 2007, as a result of conservation measures. A couple of the energy saving measures implemented by the Town Facilities Director include upgrading to more energy efficient systems in the schools and tracking energy usage in town buildings. Further areas for improvement have been identified and will put Bedford on track to meet the 2012 goal of 20% energy reduction in five years. Not only does this fulfill one requirement to be designated a green community, but it means that fewer of our tax dollars are spent on unnecessary energy consumption.

To learn more about the green communities grant programs, visit DOER's website.

[DOER Grant Programs](#)

Learn about projects already funded in designated green communities.

[Green communities projects](#)

What can citizens do to help?

Support Bedford's application to become a green community and learn more about the [stretch code](#)

Community education programs regarding the stretch code will be scheduled. Calendar of

events (TBD) will be posted on this website.

Consider updating your home for energy efficiency. [Learn how one of your neighbors did it](#) .

What is the stretch code?

The Stretch Code is a more stringent requirement for energy efficiency than the standard building code. Massachusetts cities and towns that adopt the Stretch Code require new construction (or substantial renovations) to be more energy efficient. Ultimately this saves money for the owner. It also provides a way for the owner to confirm that advertised energy savings will be achieved. Projected cost savings for various building types can be found at [Stretch Code Cost Projections](#) .

The stretch code is not intended to take precedence over safety, health or environmental requirements.

The specific requirements of the stretch code depend on the size, use (residential vs. commercial), and type (new vs. renovation) of construction. Please visit the links below for more detailed information.

[Stretch Code Document](#)

[Stretch Code Overview](#)

[Commonly Asked Questions](#)

Forty five communities have adopted the stretch code as of August, 2010. Click here to see the most [current map of communities](#) who have already adopted the stretch code.

## Residential Energy Efficiency Programs

In addition to saving tax money, how can your household save money on energy?

Residential energy efficiency programs help you save on heating and electricity. The Energy Task Force is planning programs to help town residents save money on heating and electricity by improving energy efficiency in their homes.

### **Calendar of programs (TBD)**

#### **Home Energy Audits**

[M](#) [ass](#) [Save](#)

#### **Appliance Upgrade Rebates**

[Nstar Gas Energy Efficiency Programs](#)

[National Grid Energy Star Products](#)

#### **State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency**

[DSIRE](#)

[Cash for Caulkers](#)

### **Resources**

Get started with energy efficiency for your home!

- [Mass Save](#)
- [Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources](#)

**Education Materials**

Kilowatt Ours (movie)

**Energy Efficient Products**

[Energy Star Products](#)

**Kill-a-watt Meters**

[Kill-a-watt meters](#) are available for check out at the Bedford Town Library. Kill-a-watt meters can be plugged into electronic equipment to determine how much energy is consumed, including devices that are powered off but still plugged in.



□ [Committee Meeting Minutes](#)

**Energy Task Force Members**

Juliette Costa	(Chair)	2011
Kimberly Siebert	(Clerk)	2011
Arthur Walsh		2011
Brenda Kelly		2011
Abigail Hafer		2011
Carolyn Sarno		2011
Walter J. St. Onge III	(Selectmen Liaison)	2011
Brad Hafer	(School Committee Liaison)	2011
Janet Powers	(Planning Board Liaison)	2011
Richard Jones	(Facilities Director)	2011

- The Task Force is an ad hoc committee authorized by the Town's Selectmen. Terms are



one-year, renewable.

- Committee composition: six appointed residents, one appointed Selectman, plus the Facilities Manager.
- The Energy Task Force complies with Open Meeting regulations.







